Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Withdrawn) A method of diagnosing the presence or absence of cancer in a human patient comprising the steps of:
 - a) examining patient tissue for the CRD-BP expression level; and
- b) comparing the result of step (a) with the expression level in noncancerous tissue from the same source, wherein an increased CRD-BP level in the patient tissue compared to the non-cancerous tissue is diagnostic of cancer.



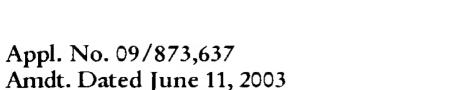
- 2. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the detection of CRD-BP comprises the step of homogenizing biopsy tissue and obtaining a crude protein extract and examining that extract for the CRD-BP level.
- 3. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 2 wherein the detection is via a two antibody sandwich assay.
- 4. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 2 wherein the detection is via antigen competition assay.
- 5. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 3 wherein the detection is via antibody capture assay.
- 6. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 2 wherein the detection of CRD-BP is via immunoblotting.

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- 7. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the detection of CRD-BP takes place in cells via immunological or *in situ* hybridization methods.
- 8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the cancer is selected from the group consisting of breast cancer, colon cancer and pancreatic cancer.
 - 9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the patient tissue is breast tissue.

10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9 wherein the non-cancerous tissue is breast tissue.

- 11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the patient tissue is colon tissue.
- 12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 11 wherein the non-cancerous tissue is colon tissue.
 - 13. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the tissue is pancreatic tissue.
- 14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13 wherein the non-cancerous tissue is pancreatic tissue.
- 15. (Withdrawn) A method of determining the stage of cancer in a human patient comprising the step of:
 - a) examining patient tissues for the CRD-BP expression levels, and Page 3 of 7



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b) correlating that expression level with disease prognosis.

16. (Original) A method of determining the presence or absence of anti-CRD-BP antibody in a patient's serum comprising the step of:

a) exposing a patient's serum to CRD-BP and determining whether an anti-CRD-BP antibody is present.



17. (Withdrawn) A method of determining the presence or absence of CRD-BP itself in a patient's serum comprising the step of:

- a) exposing a patient's serum to CRD-BP antibody and determining whether the CRD-BP is present.
- 18. (Withdrawn) A method of inhibiting cancer cell growth comprising the step of eliminating or lowering the level of CRD-BP in the cancerous cells.
- 19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18 wherein ability of the CRD-BP to protect c-myc mRNA from rapid destruction is by providing the cell with a competitor RNA.
- 20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18 wherein the ability of the CRD-BP to protect c-myc mRNA from rapid destruction is reduced or eliminated via the use of an inhibitor that blocks CRD-BP binding to the *c-myc* mRNA CRD.
- 21. (Previously Added) The method of claim 16 wherein the CRD-BP is recombinant.

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- 22. (Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the amount of <u>anti-CRD-BP</u> antibody is quantitated.
- 23. (Amended) The method of claim 16 additionally comprising the step of correlating anti-CRD-BP antibody presence with cancer diagnosis.



- 24. (Previously Added) The method of claim 16 wherein the CRD-BP is bound to a solid support.
- 25. (Previously Added) The method of claim 24 wherein the CRD-BP is exposed to serum and anti-CRD-BP antibody in the serum binds to the CRD-BP.
- 26. (Previously Added) The method of claim 16 wherein serum is attached to a solid support.
- 27. (Previously Added) The method of claim 26 wherein the CRD-BP is radiolabeled and exposed to the serum, wherein the amount of radiolabeled CRD-BP bound to the solid support is measured.